>

Title: Issue regarding protecting the border on the Eastern side of the country.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY :Madam, I would like to bring to the notice of the House a very important and a very dangerous fact, which is dangerous for the external and internal security of the country. It is Arunachal Pradesh. Arunachal Pradesh is divided into two parts as the Eastern Part and the Western Part. We all know about the Western Part. It is the Tawang side. The area on the Western Side is Tawang. In the Eastern Part, just near Tazo, from 150 kilometres from Tazo, there is an area called Palmpalm. There are four outposts. These four outposts had been occupied by the Chinese Army from 10th to 16th August. Till then, either the Defence Minister or the Government of India was not aware of the fact that these four outposts in the Palmpalm area in the eastern side of Arunachal Pradesh had been occupied by the 200-strong Chinese Army. Only the Indo-Tibetan Border Police came to know of this incident after five days when the local people brought this fact to their notice.

I want to bring to your notice another very basic fact that for a distance of 105 kilometres from Changlang, there is no road at all. People have to walk to reach the border. The Army is occasionally stationed there. Out of the four outposts that have been there, very occasionally the Army is stationed there. That is why, the Chinese Army came inside the boundary of India, about 55 kilometres. They stayed there for many days. The Indian Army have to walk miles after miles, nearly 105 kilometres but, on the other side of the China, they have got air-strip, they have got good roads and they have got everything. On the Indian side, our Army has to walk miles with all the load. In the Palmpalm area where four border outposts have been situated, in 1962, during the Chinese aggression, the Kumaon Regiment shed a lot of blood there. They have been butchered like anything. The most unfortunate fact is that people do not know what to do, where to go, whether they should go to the Chinese side or to the Indian side. These things are happening there. So, the border should be properly protected. The Eastern Side is too much neglected.

Therefore, I want a Statement from the Minister and also a discussion on this subject.